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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,675 90/006,533	06/24/2003	5436960		5436

803 7590 02/24/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
 206 SIXTH AVENUE
 SUITE 1213
 DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

weaver

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

399 2

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP

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400 EAST TOWER

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/006,533, 40/006,675

PATENT NO. 5,436,960.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination

Control No.

90/006,533 90/006,675

Patent Under Reexamination

5436960

Examiner

Scott L. Weaver

Art Unit

3992

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 15 February 2006. b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
 c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire TWO month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 3. ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-474.
 2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. 4. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-89, 183-193 and 195-233 are subject to reexamination.
 1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
 2. ☒ Claims 90-182 and 194 have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
 3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
 4. ☒ Claims 1-89, 183-193 and 195-233 are rejected.
 5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
 6. ☐ The drawings, filed on _____ are acceptable.
 7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
 8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have
 1 ☐ been received.
 2 ☐ not been received.
 3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
 4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
 5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
 9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
 10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,494	12/26/2002	6067451		9468

803 7590 02/21/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
 206 SIXTH AVENUE
 SUITE 1213
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 02/21/2006

mr
22

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EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/006,494, 90/006,481

PATENT NO. 6067451.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination	Control No. <u>90/006,681</u> 90/006,494	Patent Under Reexamination 6067451	
	Examiner Roland G. Foster	Art Unit 3992	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 30 January 2006. b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 3. ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-474.
2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. 4. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-341 and 393-437 are subject to reexamination.
1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
2. ☐ Claims _____ have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-341 and 393-437 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
6. ☒ The drawings, filed on 03 December 1999 are acceptable.
7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have

- 1 ☐ been received.
2 ☐ not been received.
3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)